

DEPARTMENT OF THE YOUTH AUTHORITY

LENGTH OF STAY OF YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS*

2004

The average amount of time (length of stay) Youth Authority wards spent incarcerated prior to their release to parole in 2004 is presented in Tables 1 and 2. Table 3 displays the length of stay on parole prior to removal from parole.

Note: This report does not include wards who were discharged from Youth Authority jurisdiction without having been on parole. In 2004, there were 579 such cases.

The 2004 **overall** institutional length of stay was 25.5 months, one month less than the average of 26.4 months in 2003.

The average length of stay for **first commitments only** was 33.4 months, a half month decrease from the 2003 figure of 34.1 months. Tables 1 and 2 further delineate the institutional length of stay for first commitments by sex, ethnic group, age at parole release, primary commitment offense, and Youth Authority Board (YAB) hearing category.

The average length of stay for parole violators re-released in 2004 was 9.0 months, down from 10.4 months in 2003. The average length of stay for recommitments who were released in 2004 was 20.9 months, a nine month decrease from the figure of 29.3 months in 2003.

A multi-year comparison of the average length of stay on parole is presented in Table 3. From 19 months in 1985, the average amount of time parolees spent on parole began decreasing in 1987 until it reached a low of 15.3 months in 1990. The average then began going up, and in 2001, the average length of stay on parole was 21.1 months, the highest in the past twenty years. In 2004, the average length of stay on parole was 20.6 months

* Does not include length-of-stay information for CDC cases housed in CYA facilities under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1731.5(c).

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TABLE 1

INSTITUTIONAL LENGTH OF STAY OF YOUTH AUTHORITY COMMITMENTS
RELEASED TO PAROLE IN 2004

By Selected Characteristics and Court of Commitment

CHARACTERISTICS	TOTAL		JUVENILE COURT		CRIMINAL COURT	
	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS
TOTAL PAROLE RELEASES	2,381	25.5	2,331	25.5	50	26.0
FIRST COMMITMENT PAROLE RELEASES.....	1,598	33.4	1,573	33.3	25	43.9
Sex						
Males	1,508	33.8	1,573	33.3	25	43.9
Females	90	27.5	90	27.5	-	-
Ethnic Group						
White	264	24.0	261	33.8	3	50.0
Hispanic	776	32.8	760	32.6	16	45.9
African American	462	33.8	457	33.8	5	37.8
Asian	63	32.9	62	33.1	1	23.8
Other	33	37.8	33	37.8	-	-
Age at Parole						
16 and under	39	17.0	39	17.0	-	-
17.....	116	20.8	114	20.8	2	21.7
18.....	329	21.7	327	21.7	2	16.6
19.....	466	25.8	461	25.8	5	28.9
20.....	406	38.9	403	38.9	3	40.4
21 and over	242	63.5	229	63.8	13	58.1
Board Hearing Category						
Category 1.....	41	88.0	41	88.0	-	-
Category 2.....	158	52.9	150	52.8	8	55.5
Category 3.....	127	47.3	119	47.0	8	51.9
Category 4.....	444	34.0	438	34.1	6	29.6
Category 5.....	447	26.6	445	26.6	2	25.2
Category 6.....	356	22.3	355	22.3	1	9.9
Category 7.....	25	19.8	25	19.8	-	-
Type of Offense						
Misdemeanor	20	15.0	20	15.0	-	-
Felony	1,578	33.7	1,553	33.5	25	43.9
Parole Violator Releases*	759	9.0	-	-	-	-
Recommitment Releases*	24	20.9	-	-	-	-

*Information by committing court not available.

TABLE 2
INSTITUTIONAL LENGTH OF STAY OF FIRST COMMITMENTS
RELEASED TO PAROLE IN 2004

By Primary Commitment Offense and Court

PRIMARY COMMITMENT OFFENSE	TOTAL		JUVENILE COURT		CRIMINAL COURT	
	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS
TOTAL FIRST COMMITMENT PAROLE RELEASES.....	1,598	33.4	1,573	33.3	25	43.9
Murder 1st Degree	17	91.3	17	91.3	-	-
Murder 2nd Degree	19	88.2	19	88.2	-	-
Manslaughter	20	44.9	18	45.0	2	44.2
Robbery, Enhanced	117	37.2	116	37.3	1	32.3
Carjacking	52	43.4	50	43.9	2	32.9
Other Robbery Offenses	188	29.4	185	29.1	3	45.5
Assault to Murder	35	57.9	31	58.0	4	57.0
Aggravated Assault	261	34.9	258	34.6	3	56.9
Other Assault Offenses	118	27.8	115	27.4	3	40.8
Burglary First Degree	178	27.1	177	27.1	1	28.2
Other Burglary Offenses	72	27.3	72	27.3	-	-
Grand Theft	39	23.5	37	23.4	2	24.1
Auto Theft	97	22.6	97	22.6	-	-
Other Theft Offenses	41	22.0	41	22.0	-	-
Forcible Rape	38	49.4	37	50.0	1	39.4
Other Sex Offenses	105	48.0	103	47.7	2	63.8
Possession Hard Narcotic	22	22.9	22	22.9	-	-
Selling Hard Narcotic	7	24.1	7	24.1	-	-
Possession Marijuana	8	24.5	8	24.5	-	-
Selling Marijuana	2	27.2	2	27.2	-	-
Other Drug Offenses	32	20.7	32	20.7	-	-
Weapons	68	22.3	68	22.3	-	-
Arson	16	31.8	16	31.8	-	-
Extortion/Kidnapping	15	56.0	15	56.0	-	-
Miscellaneous Felony	20	18.8	19	19.3	1	9.8
Miscellaneous Misdemeanor	11	17.7	11	17.7	-	-
Escape Juvenile Facility	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE 3
PAROLE LENGTH OF STAY
By Year and Type of Removal from Parole

CALENDAR YEAR	TOTAL REMOVED		NON-VIOLATION DISCHARGES		REVOCATIONS		VIOLATION DISCHARGES	
	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS
1985	4,231	19.0	1,472	23.0	1,480	13.3	1,279	20.8
1986	3,941	19.5	1,307	24.4	1,634	14.4	1,000	21.7
1987	3,357	19.0	1,084	23.5	1,491	14.1	782	22.1
1988	2,721	17.7	935	22.4	1,105	12.3	681	20.1
1989	2,859	15.8	979	18.7	1,135	11.6	745	18.1
1990	3,277	15.3	1,070	18.5	1,346	11.4	861	17.2
1991	3,583	16.3	1,169	19.3	1,369	12.2	1,045	18.4
1992	3,188	17.1	1,070	20.4	1,202	12.3	916	19.5
1993	3,326	16.9	998	21.2	1,359	12.3	969	18.8
1994	3,317	17.5	989	21.6	1,487	13.0	841	20.4
1995	3,479	18.2	1,213	21.8	1,478	13.7	788	21.3
1996	3,451	19.2	1,384	23.1	1,268	13.5	799	21.5
1997	3,618	18.9	1,467	22.4	1,340	13.6	811	21.1
1998	3,542	19.3	1,511	22.0	1,204	14.7	827	21.0
1999	3,686	20.5	1,756	22.7	1,081	15.4	849	22.3
2000	3,021	20.1	1,191	22.8	1,080	15.3	750	22.7
2001	2,808	21.1	1,114	24.2	968	15.7	726	23.5
2002	2,733	20.1	1,058	23.8	996	14.6	679	22.6
2003	2,527	19.6	932	23.6	883	13.7	712	21.7
2004	2,508	20.6	955	26.4	863	11.8	690	23.5